

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DRC-01 FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 /194 W

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R 241718Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7098

INFO AMEMBASSY BBONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, GATT, ETRD

SUBJECT: EC-EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: STATE A-4058

1. HIJZEN, COMMISSION DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EXTERNAL
RELATIONS, TOLD THE DCM ON JUNE 24 THAT HE WISHED TO RAISE
"OFFICIALLY AND INFORMALLY" A PROBLEM IN REGARD TO
EC-EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN. THE COMMISSION UNDERSTANDS
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THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS SENT OUT LENGTHY QUESTION-
NAIRES TO FIRMS IN MEMBER STATES ASKING FOR INFORMATION

ON RULES OF ORIGIN TO BE USED AGAINST THE COMMUNITY IN THE GATT. HIJZEN SAID THE COMMISSION HAS NO LEGAL OBJECTION TO THIS PROCEDURE BUT IT DOES NOT "CONSIDER IT NORMAL". HE WANTED US TO KNOW ALSO THAT A GERMAN TRADE ASSOCIATION HAD SUGGESTED THAT ITS MEMBERS NOT ANSWER THE QUESTIONNAIRES. HIJZEN SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT A "PROTEST" BUT AN ORAL EXPRESSION OF CONCERN WHICH HE REQUESTED THE MISSION TO PASS TO WASHINGTON.

2. THE DCM SAID THAT THOUGH THE MISSION HAS NO SPECIFICS ON THE USE OF QUESTIONNAIRES, IT DOES KNOW THAT WASHINGTON HAD SENT DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR EMBASSIES IN THE MEMBER STATES ASKING THEM TO COMPILE INFORMATION. THE EC SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED THAT WE ARE SEEKING THIS INFORMATION IN THE COMMUNITY SINCE IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GATHER ALL THIS INFORMATION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. WE ARE VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN KNOWING THE PRECISE EFFECTS ON TRADE OF THE EC-EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN. IN FACT, IN THE PAST THE COMMISSION HAS OFTEN URGED US TO FURNISH SPECIFICS ON PROBLEMS STEMMING FROM THE RULES OF ORIGIN RATHER THAN RELYING ON GENERAL ARGUMENTS OF PRINCIPLE. GREENWALD

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